[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

VI.—ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* LETTER FROM THE INDIA OFFICE, LONDON, REGARDING THE COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION WELCOMING THE TRANSFER OF POWER TO INDIAN HANDS.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House the following communication, dated 10th June 1947, received from the Secretary, Political Department, India Office, regarding the resolution passed by the Council on 23rd April 1947 welcoming the decision of His Majesty's Government to transfer power to Indian hands :

' I am directed by the Secretary of State to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. F. 42/47-R of May 23rd, 1947, enclosing a copy of a resolution passed by the Madras Legislative Council at its meeting held on April 23rd, 1947. I am to request that the thanks of the Secretary of State may be conveyed to the Council."

VII.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House that under Rule 9 of the Madras Council Rules, I have nominated the following four members to be the Panel of Chairmen for the seventh session of the Council :—

K. T. M. Ahamed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.

Sri H. M. Jagannatham.

Sri M. Narayana Rao.

Dr. V. K. John."

VIII.—SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1947–48.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I present the demands for grants for further expenditure and detailed supplementary estimates thereof for the year 1947–48."

Copies of the demands have been laid on the table of the House.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Discussion on these estimates will be taken up at 11 a.m. on the 22nd of this month."

IX.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *That under rule 143 of the Madras Council Rules, this House do proceed to elect six members to the House Committee according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf by the President.*' "

The motion was put and carried.

16th September 1947]

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to inform the House that in accordance with the regulations framed by me under rule 143 of the Madras Council Rules for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. on Friday, the 19th September 1947 as the time within which nomination of candidates for election to the House Committee should reach the Secretary.

" If the number of candidates nominated exceeds the number of vacancies, namely, six, there will be an election between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 22nd September 1947."

X.—FOOD SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move that—
'*the food situation in the province be taken into consideration.*'

" In doing so, Sir, I beg to submit that I have already circulated a copy of my statement [a] to all the hon. Members of this House a week in advance of this session. Therefore, I think the House will excuse me from reading the statement again in the House just now. Besides, I have also submitted a supplementary correction slip which has been sent to all the Members of the House which brings the figures to the latest date, viz., 31st August 1947."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the food situation in the province be taken into consideration. It is now open for discussion. In this connexion, I would like all the hon. Members who wish to take part in the discussion to give me their names in advance, so that I may fix the time we may require for the entire discussion. The members have had the statement sufficiently in advance; and so, I think there will not be any difficulty in their making up their minds and giving their names to me if they want to speak thereon."

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—" Mr. President, it is painful to hear every year the tale of woe, regarding food position in our province during this part of the year.

" In the food economy of our province, it is not possible to expect any change within a period of five or six years. The main features of the situation are shortage of internal supply, production in an average season being smaller than consumption, and the shortage of imports from abroad. If the movement of rice from Burma or Indo-China is re-established, some change may be expected. But prospects are not bright in that direction.

" Under the above circumstances, it is to be considered, how long are these controls to continue, and how they are to be relaxed. Difficult problems are bound to arise in the process of relaxation

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a Printed as Appendix III on pages 54–64.